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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**(Attorney Docket No. DN38240R1)**

In the Application of:  
Durbin, et. al

Serial No.: 08/879,467

Filed: June 20, 1997

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§ Group Art Unit: 2724  
§ Examiner: Chen, W.

*W* 

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Sec. 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 18, 1999.

Teresa A. Newby

## **AMENDMENT**

**Box AF**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, D.C. 20231**

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed June 18, 1999, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the above-referenced application for Allowance. The following claim amendments are submitted as placing the present application in better condition for allowance or appeal. Applicants also respectfully submit that the §102 and §103 rejections have been improperly maintained and, for reasons developed in detail below, the subject matter of the claims is clearly not taught or obvious in view of the cited art.

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